

CHARACTER BREAKDOWNS

Jojo/Boy

A "Thinker." He's a smart child with a wild imagination. JoJo can be played as being a little bit awkward, a little bit of a loner, or simply a rambunctious kid whose "Thinks" get him into constant trouble. By the end of the show, he learns what it means to be a responsible member of his community, using the power and possibilities of his own "Thinks." JoJo should be one of your strongest singers, and can easily be played by a young girl or boy.

Gender: Any

Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: Ab3

The Cat in the Hat

The essence of mischief, fun, and imagination. The Cat stirs things up and causes trouble but always sets things right again. He helps JoJo discover the power of his own imagination as they create the story of *Seussical JR.* together. Look for a physically adept actor (male or female) to play the Cat who is confident onstage, comfortable with comedy, and able to improvise with the audience if needed. The Cat does not need to be your strongest singer but should still have good rhythm and timing.

Gender: Any

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: Bb3

Horton the Elephant

A gentle giant. Think of Horton as a big-hearted, blue-collar guy who is steadfast, responsible, and always tries to do the right thing. He is sympathetic and receptive to the world around him. He believes in the inherent goodness of the world, so it's no surprise that he always looks for the good in others. Horton goes on quite a journey throughout the show but stays true to himself, even when the going gets tough. Cast a great singer and actor in this important role.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: E4

Vocal range bottom: A2

Mr. Mayor

Mr. Mayor and Mrs. Mayor are parents trying hard to raise a child with a big imagination. These Whos may get aggravated with JoJo, but they love him dearly. They try their best to make the right choices as parents, even if JoJo doesn't always understand them. They are also upstanding members of their community. Cast two performers who are good singers and pair well together. Remember, Mr. and Mrs. Mayor are a team.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: E4

Vocal range bottom: C3

Mrs. Mayor

Mr. Mayor and Mrs. Mayor are parents trying hard to raise a child with a big imagination. These Whos may get aggravated with JoJo, but they love him dearly. They try their best to make the right choices as parents, even if JoJo doesn't always understand them. They are also upstanding members of their community. Cast two performers who are good singers and pair well together. Remember, Mr. and Mrs. Mayor are a team.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: Bb4

Vocal range bottom: A3

Gertrude McFuzz

Very self-conscious about her one-feather tail. Gertrude gains confidence throughout the show, changing from an anxious, nervous, shy bird into someone whose self-worth doesn't rest on her appearance. In other words, Gertrude realizes what's truly important in her life. Cast a wonderful actor and a great singer in this role, and make sure well with Horton.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: Eb5

Vocal range bottom: F#3

Mayzie La Bird

Self-centered, vain, and manipulative. She ultimately means no harm, but she's immature and makes selfish decisions. In giving up her egg to Horton once and for all, she has a moment of self-awareness - she realizes she isn't the kind of bird who would be a good parent, and she does the best thing she can for the egg. Cast a performer who is a good singer and great actor and can sell Mayzie's larger-than-life personality.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: Eb5

Vocal range bottom: G#3

Wickersham Brothers

The Wickersham Brothers, including Wickersham 1, Wickersham 2, and Wickersham 3, are not bad guys! They tease, play pranks, and get a kick out of making mischief, although often at another's expense. Cast great movers who work well as a group, and encourage each of your actors to find an individual Wickersham persona.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: B3

Vocal range bottom: Ab2

Bird Girls

The Bird Girls, including Bird Girl 1, Bird Girl 2, and Bird Girl 3, are a fabulous group of birds who know everything there is to know about the goings on in the jungle and support Mayzie throughout the show. Cast girls who are great movers, singers, and work well together as a group.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: A3

Sour Kangaroo

Loud, brassy, and a lot of fun. She's got a lot of attitude but isn't mean - she's just very confident and unafraid to tell it like it is. Cast a great actor with a bring-down-the-house singing voice who is unafraid of making bold choices onstage.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: Eb5

Vocal range bottom: Bb3

Young Kangaroo

Sour Kangaroo's feisty daughter. She may be pint-sized, but she's got a big personality and is following in her mother's footsteps. Young Kangaroo doesn't have to be the best singer, but she should be a great actor with lots of attitude and pair well with Sour Kangaroo.

Gender: Female

Judge Yertle the Turtle

The authoritative judge who presides over Horton's trial at the end of the show. Yertle is a great role for a newer performer who may not be quite ready for the responsibility of a larger part. Cast a good singer and actor who can command the stage.

Gender: Any

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: F3

Vlad Vladikoff

The black-bottomed eagle who flies off with the Whos. Vlad is onstage very briefly and doesn't sing, so this is a good role for a member of your ensemble who can make a big impression in a short amount of time.

Gender: Male

The Grinch

Arguably the most famous Seuss character of all! He has a brief, fun cameo in *Seussical JR*. Cast a good actor and singer who can have fun with the Grinch's short solo.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: B3

Vocal range bottom: F3

The Whos

The Whos (including First Who Family, Second Who Family, Third Who Family, Fourth Who Family, and Fifth Who Family) are the citizens of Whoville and they look a lot like you and me, only so small they are invisible to the naked eye. They are a tight-knit, supportive community. Encourage everyone playing a Who to create his or her own unique character.

Gender: Any

Ensemble

The Jungle Citizens, Hunters, Circus Animals, Fish, Nurses, Courtroom Attendants, additional Wickersham Brothers and Bird Girls all help fill out the world *Seussical JR*. These ensemble roles are great places for anyone who would like to be involved in your production. Encourage these performers to create their own individual characters, especially if they are playing multiple roles.

Gender: Any

Audition Sides - Boy/JoJo, Cat



(#1 – OVERTURE begins.)

(A red-and-white-striped hat sits on a very empty stage. A BOY (JOJO) enters and notices it.)

START

BOY

Now that is a very unusual hat.
I wonder what's under a hat such as that.
It could be a creature they call the Ga-Zat
Who balances things on his head, 'cause it's flat.
Or a stripe-loving Pipester from Upper Mount Bat.
Or a sort of a kind of a hat-wearing...

(The BOY picks up the hat, and THE CAT IN THE HAT
(CAT) suddenly appears.)

CAT, BOY

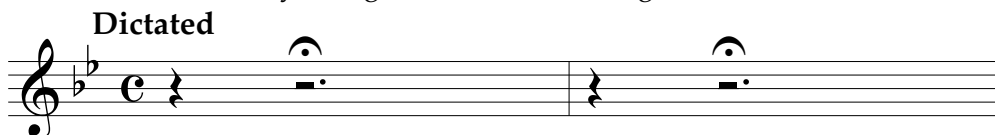
Cat!

(#2 – OH, THE THINKS YOU CAN THINK! begins.)

OH, THE THINKS YOU CAN THINK!

CAT: I can see that
you've got quite a
mind for your age!

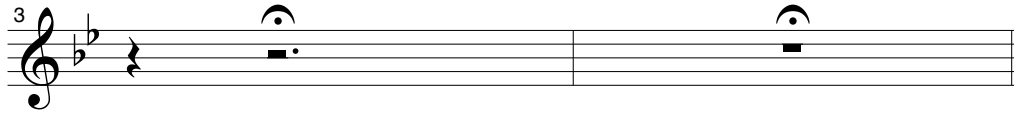
Why, one Think and you
dragged me right onto the
stage!



Audition Sides - Boy/JoJo, Cat

Now, I'm here, there is no
telling what may ensue...

...with a Cat such as me
and a Thinker like you!



END

*(The CAT begins to "create" the Seussian world of imagination
for the BOY, who will enter this world and become JOJO.)*

Bright "4", With Mischief



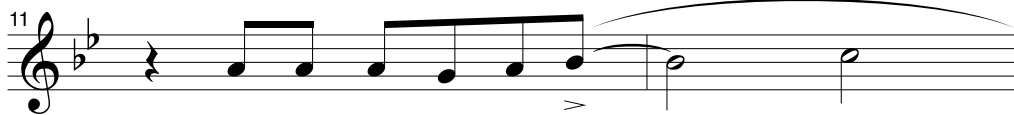
Oh, the thinks you can think! Oh, the thinks you can think



if you're wil - ling to try... —



Think in - vi - si - ble ink! Or a Gink with a stink!



Or a stair to the sky... —



— If you o - pen your mind, oh, the thinks you will find



li - ning up to get loose... —

Audition Sides - Cat

51 (BIRD GIRL 3:)

wet. He was ti - red and hun - gry and cold.

53

WOMEN: BIRD GIRLS:

Egg, nest, and tree! Then,

MEN:

Egg, nest, and tree!

(BIRD GIRLS:)

55

Hor - ton was ta - ken to auc - tion...

(The CAT appears as an auctioneer. NOTE: Another "free" improvisational area for the CAT – please start with what's here, and improvise with the audience a little.)

START

CAT

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to Seusseby's. Our first item up to bid this evening is lot 39, a pendulous pachyderm on egg, nest, and tree. The bidding will begin at ten thousand dollars. Do I hear ten, ten thousand?

(The CAT improvises with the audience.)

Going once, going twice...

(The CAT bangs his gavel.)

Sold... to the man with the sideburns and the greasy black moustache – oh, excuse me, Madam!

Sold instead, to the man from the circus!

END

(#22 – SOLD/MAYZIE IN PALM BEACH begins.)

Audition Sides - Gertrude, Cat

(#14 - AMAYZING GERTRUDE (PART 1) begins.)

AMAYZING GERTRUDE (PART 1)

START

L'istesso 3 GERTRUDE:

So she flew to the Doc-tor, the

6

Doc - tor named Dake whose of - fice was high in a

8

tree by the lake. She cried, "Mist - er Doc - tor! Oh,

10

Freely

please do you know of some kind of pill that will

12

make my tail grow?"

(The CAT appears wearing a stethoscope.)

Audition Sides - Gertrude, Cat

CAT

(as Doctor Dake)
Tut tut, the Doctor said.
Such talk! It's too absurd!
Your little tail is just right
For your kind of bird!

(#15 – AMAYZING GERTRUDE (PART 2) begins.)

AMAYZING GERTRUDE (PART 2)

(GERTRUDE's reaction!)

GERTRUDE:

Then

3

Ger - trude had tan - trums. She raised such a din that

CAT: (as Doctor Dake)
All right already! Bring
in the Pill-berry bush!

5

Rall. Slight rit.

fi - n'ly the Doc - tor just had to give in.

END

(The NURSES bring on a pill bush.) (GERTRUDE swallows a pill...)

7 A Tempo 3 10 Gracefully 3 GERTRUDE:

(Gulp)

Audition Sides - Gertrude, Horton

(In the darkness, we see a figure carrying a flashlight. It is GERTRUDE McFUZZ.)

START

GERTRUDE

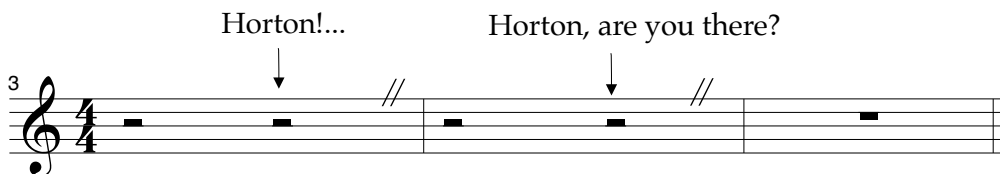
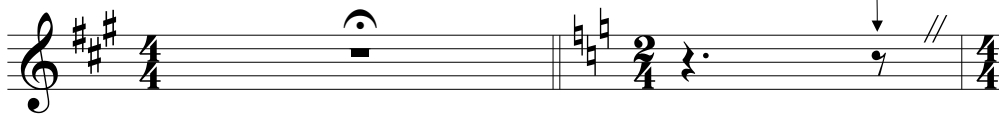
I'll bet you forgot
About Gertrude McFuzz.
Well, that's nothing new,
I mean, everyone does.
But Gertrude did something
That few birds could do...
So this is the Tale of Miss Gertrude.
Part Two.

(#28 – GERTRUDE/ESPIONAGE (PART 2) begins.)

GERTRUDE/ESPIONAGE (PART 2)

*(We hear the sounds of
snoring. Gertrude's
flashlight finds HORTON.)*

(GERTRUDE:) PSST!...



HORTON

What? Who is it?

GERTRUDE

It's me, Gertrude! Horton! Oh, Horton! I was so worried! Are you all right?

HORTON

Gertrude! How did you find us?

GERTRUDE


Well, it's a long story.

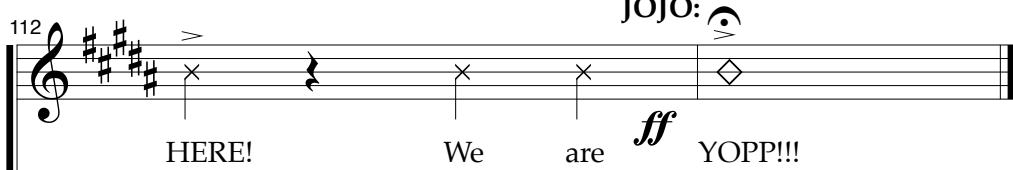
END

(#29 – ALL FOR YOU begins.)

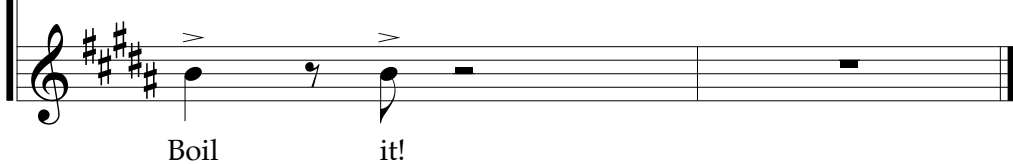
Audition Sides - Horton, Gertrude, Sour Kangaroo

112

JOJO: 



HERE! We are *ff* YOPP!!!



Boil it!

(JOJO's voice reverberates loudly through the universe. And the WHOS are heard at last. All the JUNGLE CITIZENS gasp. The WHOS breathe a sigh of relief.)

(#32 – YOPP! begins.)


YOPP!

START

HORTON: Do you hear what I hear? Do you see what I mean?
They made themselves heard though they still can't be seen!
GERTRUDE: They've proved they ARE persons, no matter how small.
HORTON: And their whole world was saved by the Smallest of All.

Moderato

8



SOUR KANGAROO: (*grudgingly*) How true! Yes, how true! Said the Sour Kangaroo. And, from now on, you know what I'm planning to do? From now on, I'm going to protect them with you!

6



END

(SOUR KANGAROO:)

ten.

YOUNG KANGAROO:

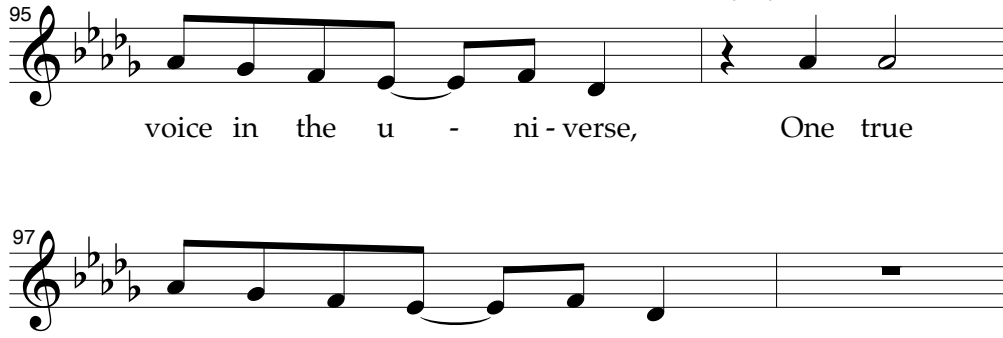
(with genuine enthusiasm)



And the young kan-ga-roo in her pouch said: Me,

Audition Sides - Horton, JoJo


HORTON: **JOJO:**



95 voice in the u - ni - verse, One true

97 friend in the u - ni - verse,

BOTH:



99 Please be - lieve in ___ me... ___

START

HORTON: (*casually, to his clover*) Hello... hello?

JOJO: Hello?

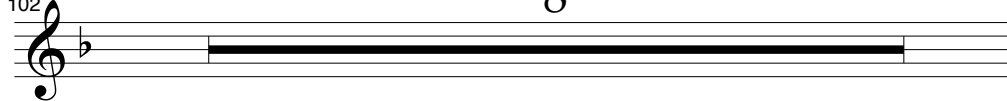
HORTON: Who's there?

JOJO: It's me, JoJo. The Mayor's son.

HORTON: I'm Horton. The Elephant.

JOJO: Are you real, or are you a very large Think?

8

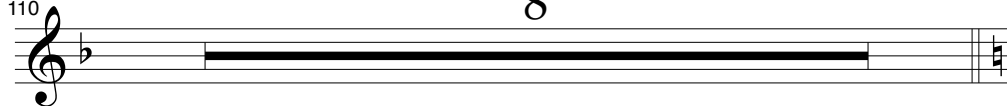


102

HORTON: Oh, I'm real, all right. I would state that in ink.

JOJO: In my Thinks, I imagine a lot of strange things, and I go to strange places, as if I had wings! I love a good Think!

8



110

HORTON: Well, for me that goes double.

JOJO: Sometimes my Thinks are what get me in trouble.

HORTON: When you think, do you dream?

JOJO: In bright colors!

HORTON: Me, too.

8



118

Audition Sides - Horton, JoJo


(HORTON:) And I go to strange places.
Like Solla Sollew!

JOJO: When you think, do you think you
could fly to the stars?

HORTON: Little friend, no one else could
have Thinks such as ours!

END

126



HORTON:
Yes,

134 HORTON:




I have ___ wings ___ and I can ___ fly

JOJO:

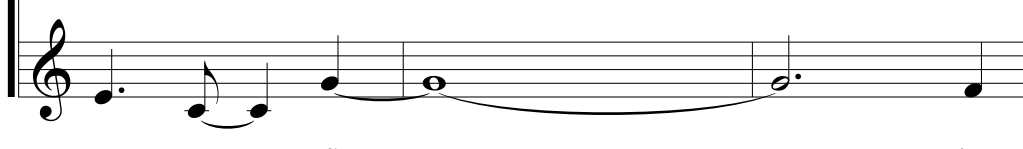


I have wings

137



___ a - round the ___ moon ___ and far be -



I can ___ fly... ___ be -

140



yond the ___ sky. ___ You called my ___ name



yond the ___ sky. ___

Audition Sides - Horton, Mayzie 1

71

No-tice me, Hor - ton,
— if they no-ticed a thing or two...

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 71 and 72. It features two staves in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody in the upper staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B-flat4, and C5, then a dotted quarter note B-flat4. The lower staff has a whole rest in measure 71 and a quarter rest in measure 72, followed by a quarter note G4, quarter notes A4, B-flat4, and C5, and a quarter note B-flat4.

A Bit Slower *rit.*

73

No - tice me, Hor - ton, the way I no - tice
— the way I no - tice

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 73 and 74. It features two staves in a key signature of three flats and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo marking 'A Bit Slower' and 'rit.' is placed above the first staff. The melody in the upper staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B-flat4, and C5, then a dotted quarter note B-flat4 with a fermata. The lower staff has a whole rest in measure 73 and a quarter rest in measure 74, followed by a quarter note G4, quarter notes A4, B-flat4, and C5, and a quarter note B-flat4 with a fermata.

A Tempo

75

you. _____
you. _____

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 75 and 76. It features two staves in a key signature of three flats and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo marking 'A Tempo' is placed above the first staff. The melody in the upper staff begins with a half note G4, followed by a half note A4. The lower staff has a whole rest in measure 75 and a half note G4 in measure 76.

(#18 – THE SEARCH CONTINUES *begins.*)

(HORTON continues his clover search, and a defeated GERTRUDE exits.)

START

HORTON

Two million, nine hundred and ninety-nine thousand, nine hundred and ninety-nine. It's hopeless.

(A voice is heard over HORTON's head.)

MAYZIE

You said it, kid.

Audition Sides - Horton, Mayzie 1

HORTON

Who's there?

MAYZIE

It's me. Mayzie. Up here.

HORTON

Mayzie... Are you on a nest?

MAYZIE

Yeah. You wanna make something of it?

HORTON

No, I just never thought I'd see you on a nest.

(#19 – HOW LUCKY YOU ARE *begins.*)

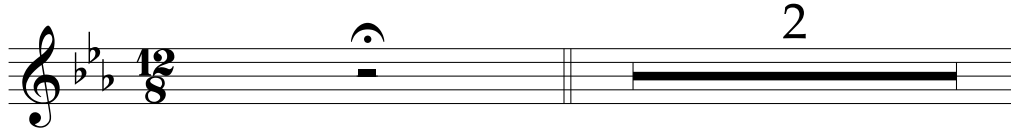
HOW LUCKY YOU ARE

MAYZIE: Neither did I,
Hort. Neither did I.

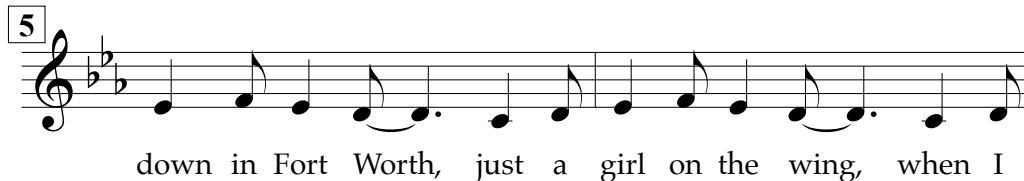
(*The CAT rides out on a small, Seussian
piano and plays a jazz intro for MAYZIE.*)

END

Torchy, Bluesy "4"



(**MAYZIE:**)
(*improvised vocal scat*)



Audition Sides - Horton, Mayzie 2



Hor-ton, would you may-be like to sit on my nest?

START**HORTON**

Why, Mayzie, I couldn't. Of all silly things!
I haven't got feathers. I haven't got wings.
And not only that, but I'm here on a search.
I just couldn't leave my poor Whos in the lurch!

MAYZIE

I won't be gone long, kid. I give you my word.
I'll hurry right back, 'cause I'm that sort of bird!
Oh, Horton, I promise! I'll fly back real soon.
I'd only be gone for, say, one afternoon!

(A beat, as HORTON considers this.)

HORTON

(relenting)

Well... we all need vacations.
All right, go on, take it.
I'll sit on your egg
And I'll try not to break it.
But please come back quickly—
One hour, maybe two.
I need to find JoJo.
I've got to save Who!

MAYZIE

(ad-lib)

Hit it, Cat!

END

(#20 – MAYZIE'S EXIT/HORTON SITS ON THE
EGG/DILEMMA/HUNTERS begins.)

Audition Sides - Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Mayor, JoJo

19

Who has the in-struc-tions on how _____ to raise a child?

Who has the in-struc-tions on how _____ to raise a child?

21

Who has all the an - swers? I don't

Who has all the an - swers? I don't

23

know... _____

know... _____

(They begin to scold JOJO.)

START

MR. MAYOR

JoJo!
I'm the Mayor of Who. Why, I've just been elected.
And upright behavior is thus forth expected.

MRS. MAYOR

We've just had a talk with your teachers today
And they didn't have one single good thing to say!

MR. MAYOR

You invented new Thinks which defy all description!

Audition Sides - Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Mayor, JoJo

(Throughout this litany of JoJo's behavior, we need to know that the CAT was responsible. The CAT may be guilt ridden or highly amused. JOJO, of course, sees the CAT reacting, but MR. MAYOR and MRS. MAYOR don't.)

MRS. MAYOR

You gave Miss O'Dooley a nervous conniption!

MR. MAYOR

Your Thinks were so wild they disrupted your classes
And made Mrs. Mackel-Who drop her new glasses.
Which is why you're suspended!

MRS. MAYOR

Yes, that's what they said!

MR. MAYOR

Young man, what in Who has got into your head?!

JOJO

I... um...

(JOJO looks to the CAT for help, but the CAT makes it clear JOJO's on his own.)

MR. MAYOR

Now Horton has found us. We're safe on a clover.
But clearly our troubles are far, far from over.

MRS. MAYOR

We don't mean to scold you. We love you, oh, yes, dear.
But couldn't you try thinking just a bit less, dear?

MR. MAYOR

Stop telling such outlandish tales.

MRS. MAYOR

Stop turning minnows into whales.

MR. MAYOR

Now take your bath and go to bed.

MRS. MAYOR

And think some Normal Thinks instead.

END

(MR. MAYOR and MRS. MAYOR exit, leaving JOJO alone to take his bath. #9 – OH, THE THINKS YOU CAN THINK! (REPRISE) begins.)